

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1888.

Be Ye Not Deceived.

A loyal Republican and an earnest temperance man, expressed his opinion a few days since, to the effect that the fire on their camp should be slackened, if not suspended, that they should be treated with great mildness and every effort be made to conciliate them. The CITIZEN has held no such views, but could not have effectually answered our esteemed friend without the aid of E. A. S. It is hard to prove a negative. Prohibitionists appreciate nothing but prohibition. Some favor it because they believe honestly that it is an attainable remedy for great evils, others because it serves them as an admirable stalking horse. The sincere and the hypocritical are equally impracticable. The Republicans tried for years to get along with them, with the result of living in continual turmoil. At last they drummed them out of camp and treated them as the most dangerous of enemies. Since then steady progress has been made towards converting the masses of the party to temperance principles, and uniting leaders on practicable measures.

Let it be understood we have no quarrel with the Prohibitionists personally. A man may be a Prohibitionist and at the same time "a gentleman and a scholar." But they are politically blind and will lead those who follow them into a political ditch.

No better evidence of blindness could be furnished than the letter of E. A. S. The Republicans in the last Legislature struggled for weeks against the run power without, and faint hearts within; against bribery and threats of political destruction. In spite of all, they stood firm and passed a law, which, while not perhaps the best possible, was the best attainable. This law has the commendation of many of the most brilliant and indefatigable temperance workers, and the universal disapproval of "those whose openly avowed object is opposition to every effort to curtail the power of the saloon, the brewery and the distillery." These men thought (and it is not strange) that such a fight and such a victory would impress even prohibitionists; that they would receive that highest reward of the faithful—well done. But no, their action was "quite in keeping with the evasive tactics of the Republican party by which they have so frequently deceived"; it was "mild antagonism"; it was the setting of a "trap" for the "confiding" Prohibitionists of which they "may well be suspicious."

Be not deceived, good friends who have fought so good a fight. In the first place, but a fraction of those who have in recent years voted the prohibition ticket, are prohibitionists; the rest are sincere, level headed temperance men, who know a good thing when they see it. They have appreciated and will uphold your action. In the next place, the genuine political Prohibitionist cannot be conciliated except by impossible concessions. They may be dangerous as enemies; as friends they are simply fatal.

Finally the Republicans are accused of trying to win votes. Why certainly, who ever denied it? Votes are the expression of public approval and confidence, and the public next fall will be called upon to say by its votes, whether what was accomplished last winter by the courage, high principle and steadfastness of the Republican Legislature is to be held and made a vantage ground for future efforts, or whether the Democrats and Prohibitionists are to be allowed to overthrow it, and send us back to free rum and all its evils. The issue is very plain, and we rely upon the good horse sense of the community to decide it right. By all means we are "temperance for votes," and as our Assemblymen said, when nominated, we "not only ask for them, but we demand them as of right" from the great temperance party in our midst. Our public servants have done well, and it is right that their hands should be strengthened, and those of their opponents made weak, by whole-souled approval. As for THE CITIZEN it does not intend to "damn them with faint praise."

Watessing.

—The number of persons who avail themselves of the privileges of the Library is continually increasing. Mr. McCallum is constantly adding to the stock of books. The Library is looked upon as one of the indispensable institutions of the neighborhood.

—George Wilde has received a large invoice of fishing tackle.

—George Petersen has been engaged during the past week in painting and renovating the parsonage of the Watessing M. E. Church.

—Fred Aucott is making internal improvements to the residence of John Hyde.

—The colored man who has been soliciting subscriptions for the aid of colored

churches, called at several houses in Watessing last week. The people were aware of the fact that he was an impostor and he met with no success.

—The Official Board of the Watessing M. E. Church met on Monday night. The annual report was presented and read. The reports show the condition of the church to be very prosperous. A committee on parsonage was appointed consisting of the following persons: Mrs. Anne Law, Mrs. Mary Elder, Mrs. Sarah Greenbank, Mr. Fanny Schenck, Mr. John Whitman, Mrs. John Greenbank and Mr. Francis Law.

—Professor Frank Lawrence, the well-known musician, was taken seriously ill while on his trip through the west.

—Mrs. James Albinson is very sick with malarial fever.

—Roy Elbert Clemens enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Elder last Sunday.

—Wm. G. Cook and George Pierce have entered into an arrangement whereby chicken breeders can be supplied with first class chicken feed at a low price.

—Mr. Joseph Bill is constructing an extensive homestead and is going into the raising of fowls on a large scale.

—Frog hunting is being vigorously pursued in the swampy marshes on the old lake property.

—The kindling wood firm of Madison & Motter has dissolved and the place of business torn down.

—The Alpine Social Club has been dissolved and by President Henry Hoes. The disbanded took place last Friday night.

—Mrs. Horace Freeman is having her commodious residence on Watessing avenue painted and renovated inside and out. A prominent New York merchant has rented it for the summer.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

—The Men's Meeting Saturday evening will be led by John G. Broadbent. These meetings have been especially interesting of late.

—Rev. W. F. Stubbart, D. D., will lead the meeting at Montgomery School-house Sunday evening.

—Sixteen delegates are in attendance at Plainfield.

—The members reception will be held next Friday evening, the 27th inst. The building question will be discussed, reports from the State Convention read, and a stereopticon exhibition and talks on the eve, after which the Auxiliary will serve refreshments. All members of the Association and Auxiliary are entitled to bring one friend.

—A handsome new Cyclopaedia (Johnson's revised edition) is the latest and most substantial addition to the library. The gift of a man in the field.

—The General Secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. held a convention at Westfield on Wednesday and Thursday of the past week. Copies of general interest to the workers in the Association were discussed and addresses made by talented speakers.

A POETICAL GLANCE

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At his store you may see, And crackers, box of every grade, And choice confections are displayed. Much to your interest it will be. So purchase here—call in and see. This is his hobby—mark it well! None but the best of goods he'll sell, And prices low as anywhere done. Sure dealing waits you at his store.

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